



Saguaro National Park (East)

Naturalist Program Schedule

Programs meet at the Rincon Mountain Visitor Center, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail. Program schedules are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5153 for updates or to make *RESERVATIONS*.

*Programs marked with an * are wheelchair accessible.*

February 28 – March 6, 2011

Monday, February 28

11:00 a.m. Desert Adaptations*

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment.

Tuesday, March 1

9:00 a.m. Desert Morning Hike

Join a park naturalist for this 3-hour, 4-mile exploration of Saguaro National Park. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring water and a trail snack.

10:00 a.m. Sonoran Lifestyles

Join a park naturalist on this 2-hour, 1-mile walk to discover how plants and animals adapt to life in the desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

11:00 a.m. Natural History Table*

Join a park naturalist on the visitor center patio to have your questions answered about the natural history of the Sonoran Desert. This is an on-going, 30-minute program.

2:30 p.m. Reptiles and Amphibians of the Sonoran Desert*

Join park naturalist Bob Brandner for this 30-minute presentation to discover the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians.

Wednesday, March 2

9:00 a.m. Desert Morning Hike

Join a park naturalist for this 3-hour, 4-mile exploration of Saguaro National Park. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring water and a trail snack.

10:00 a.m. Desert Discovery

Join park naturalists on this two-hour, 2-mile walk to discover the secrets of the Sonoran Desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

11:00 a.m. Gathering the Desert*

Join a park ranger in the Cactus Garden for an easy 30-minute stroll to learn how desert plants have been used for food, shelter, and clothing.

2:00 p.m. With or Without Water

Join a park ranger on this 2-mile, 2-hour hike to discover how seasonal rains impact Saguaro national park and you.

Thursday, March 3

10:00 a.m. Desert Discovery

Join park naturalists on this two-hour, 2-mile walk to discover the secrets of the Sonoran Desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

2:00 p.m. Desert Adaptations*

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment.

3:00 p.m. The Cactus Forest Drive: Something for Everyone*

Join a park naturalist in the visitor center to discover the variety of experiences awaiting you along our scenic drive.

7:00 p.m. Star party*

Join park naturalists for an introduction to astronomy and a look at the desert night sky. Telescopes and binoculars will be available. *Advance reservations are required and can be made by calling: 520-733*

Friday, March 4

8:30 a.m. Desert Bird Walk

Join volunteer naturalists Vicki Powers and Ralph Terry for an easy 2-hour walk in search of desert birds. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

9:00 a.m. Cowboys in the Rincon Valley

Join a park naturalist on this 2-hour, 2 ½-mile hike to explore the history and nature of the Rincon Valley. Meet at the visitor center, and then caravan to the Hope Camp Trail. Wear comfortable hiking shoes, a hat and bring water and a trail snack.

10:00 a.m. Sonoran Lifestyles

Join a park naturalist on this 2-hour, 1-mile walk to discover how plants and animals adapt to life in the desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

11:00 a.m. Desert Adaptations*

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment

Saturday, March 5

11:00 a.m. Saguaro National Park: A Common Heritage*

This 20-minute video explores the history and heritage of those who settled the Tanque Verde and Rincon Valleys.

12:00 p.m. The Cactus Forest Drive: Something for Everyone*

Join a park naturalist in the visitor center to discover the variety of experiences awaiting you along our scenic drive.

2:00 p.m. Desert Discovery

Join park naturalists on this two-hour, 2-mile walk to discover the secrets of the Sonoran Desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

5:30 p.m. Sunset Stroll

Join a park ranger for a stroll up Tanque Verde Ridge to enjoy the Sonoran Desert. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy walking shoes and bring water.

Sunday, March 6

11:00 a.m. The Places in Between*

With human populations still on the rise, the wide open spaces available for protection are shrinking. Join park staff in the visitor center auditorium to find out about on-going efforts to ensure that critical migratory links remain intact.

2:00 p.m. Yesterday, Today and...Saguaro? (The Walk)

Change is coming to the Cactus Forest and we can't do anything about it! But don't worry – change has been happening here for thousands of years. Come explore the life cycles of the saguaro cactus and the changing face of its Sonoran Desert home on this ¼ mile, 90-minute walk.